

**Approved Minutes  
Open Session  
Of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Princeton  
September 27, 2011**

**Regular Meeting  
Closed Session 6:00 P.M.  
Open Session 7:00 P.M.  
Joint Session 7:30 P.M.**

Present: Council President Kevin Wilkes (*arrived 6:08 P.M.*), Councilwoman Jo Butler (*arrived 6:05 P.M.*), Councilwoman Jenny Crumiller, Councilman David Goldfarb, Councilman Roger Martindell, Councilwoman Barbara Trelstad, Mayor Mildred Trotman

Absent: None

Staff Present: Borough Administrator Robert W. Bruschi, Police Chief David J. Dudeck, Deputy Borough Clerk Delores A. Williams

Mayor Trotman called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and read the open public meetings statement as follows:

*“This meeting is called to order pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. This meeting of September 27, 2011, was included in a list of meetings sent to and advertised in the Princeton Packet and Trenton Times, posted on the bulletin board in the Borough of Princeton municipal building and has remained continuously posted as the required notices under the statute. In addition a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Borough Clerk. Proper notice having been given, the Borough Clerk is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.”*

Mayor Trotman read **Agenda Item C, Resolution 2011-R242**, as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2011-R242  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON  
INTO CLOSED SESSION ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2011**

**WHEREAS**, the Open Public Meetings Act, P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 permits the exclusion of the public forum from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

**WHEREAS**, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances may presently exist; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body wishes to discuss the following issues:

1. Negotiations — Princeton University (PU)

**WHEREAS**, minutes will be kept and once the matter involving confidentiality of the above no longer requires that confidentiality, then minutes can be made public; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the public be excluded from this meeting.

Councilwoman Trelstad moved to approve; Councilman Martindell seconded. Council members Crumiller, Goldfarb, Martindell, and Trelstad voted in the affirmative. Hearing no nay votes, Mayor Trotman proclaimed the resolution approved four to zero.

Borough Council recessed into closed session.

At 7:00 P.M. Council reconvened into open session.

Mayor Trotman was in the audience, with Council President Wilkes presiding over the open session.

Council President Wilkes asked all present to rise for **Agenda Item D, Salute to the Flag.**

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item E, Approval of Minutes.**

Presented for approval were the minutes of the open session of July 26, 2011.

Councilwoman Trelstad moved to approve the minutes of the open session of July 26, 2011, Councilwoman Crumiller seconded, and Council approved unanimously six to zero.

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item F, Public Presentation**, and asked if anyone present wished to address Council with an issue not on the agenda.

Councilwoman Butler announced seasonal flu shot clinics will be held October 10 and 18, 2011, at Senior Resource Center. Interested recipients must call Suzanne Patterson to schedule the injection.

Seeing no one further, Council President Wilkes closed the public portion.

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item G, Report (1) — Monthly Police Report — David Dudeck, Chief of Police.**

**RESOLUTION 2011-R243  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON  
APPROVING THE MONTHLY CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT**

**WHEREAS**, David Dudeck, Chief of Police of the Borough of Princeton prepared a comprehensive report detailing the police activity for the month of July 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council reviewed said report at their Regular Meeting attended by Police Chief Dudeck and made various inquiries.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council hereby accept the July 2011 Monthly police report prepared by the Borough Police Administration.

Chief Dudeck reported a joint effort with the Traffic and Transportation Committee (T&T) to provide safety literature to violators of pedestrian and bicycle statutes. He has noticed a positive response from members of the public, who seem delighted not to be ticketed. Chief Dudeck thanked Anton Lahnston, Traffic and Transportation Chair, for spearheading the enterprise.

Councilwoman Butler asked about a new policy, as reported in the *Daily Princetonian*, for handling calls from Princeton University, in particular from Prospect Avenue. Chief Dudeck denied any policy change.

Councilman Martindell inquired who, in fact, makes policy changes—Public Safety or police personnel? Chief Dudeck replied that it depends on the nature of the action. In recent years, Public Safety was involved in all decisions concerning Princeton University.

Councilman Martindell followed up on the police decision against hiring civilian detectives. He requested an agenda item for the next Council session when Chief Dudeck will be attending to learn why.

Councilwoman Butler brought up a Trenton newspaper article about police force reductions in various cities; in no case was a civilian detective staff deemed appropriate. Chief Dudeck added that Mercer County is strongly opposed.

Councilwoman Crumiller moved to accept the police report, Councilwoman Butler seconded, and Council accepted unanimously.

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item H, New Business (1) — Resolution 2011-R244** as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2011-R244  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON  
APPROVING THE PLACEMENT OF A BANNER AS REQUESTED BY THE  
PRINCETON TRIANGLE CLUB**

**WHEREAS**, The Princeton Triangle Club wishes to advertise their Annual Fall Show to be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, The Princeton Triangle Club has requested permission to install a banner over Washington Road and has received the approval of the Office of Community and State Affairs at Princeton University and pending all conditions and insurance requirements set forth are met for the period beginning Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> through Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, this banner will be promptly removed after its use as required by Borough ordinances; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Borough Ordinance 3-17 any banner that is removed by the Borough will be held by the Borough for thirty (30) days and then disposed of; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Borough Ordinance 3-17 any applicant failing to remove a banner will not be permitted to display any banner for the succeeding two years; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council hereby approve placement of said banner on Washington Road in accordance with Borough Ordinances 3-14-3-17.

Councilwoman Trelstad moved to approve Resolution 2011-R244, Councilwoman Crumiller seconded, and Borough Council approved unanimously.

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item H, New Business (2 and 3) — Resolution 2011-R245 and Resolution 2011-R246** as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2011-R245  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON  
APPROVING BINGO LICENSE BA: 342  
TO YWCA OF PRINCETON**

**WHEREAS**, YWCA OF PRINCETON has submitted a bingo application to the Borough Clerk;  
and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 13:47-4.1 requires seven (7) days to elapse before the Governing Body makes its findings and determinations; and

**WHEREAS**, the required waiting period is satisfied on September 20, 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, YWCA OF PRINCETON, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:47-3 et seq, has submitted the required fees, four copies of their application, and the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission (LGCCC) registration form with identification number.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Princeton that bingo license BA: 342 for YWCA OF PRINCETON be approved; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Municipal Clerk will forward the Finding and Determinations for BA: 342 to the LGCCC in accordance with N.J.A.C. 13:47-4.1.

**RESOLUTION 2011-R246  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON  
APPROVING TAX REFUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, Sandra Webb, Chief Financial Officer has forwarded a list of residents for tax refund from the Borough of Princeton for review and approval by the Mayor and Council as follows:

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Qual.</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Property Location</u>	<u>Amount</u>
37.01	14.03		Princeton Theo. Seminary Princeton, NJ 08540	53/55 Mercer Street	\$125.06
40.01	9		Princeton Theo. Seminary	27 Alexander Street Princeton, NJ 08540	\$8462.60
30.02	79		Tocco, John J. & Anita Marie 28220 Schoolhouse Rd Columbus, NJ 08022-1828	252 Nassau Street	\$4327.57
37.01	68		Center for Theological Inquiry	50 Stockton Street Princeton, NJ 08540	\$398.00
12.01	23		First Church of Christ Princeton, NJ 08542	16 Bayard Lane	\$99.60
42.01	1.01		Trustees of Princeton Univ.	See attached sheet for location details	\$14,296.85
<b>TOTAL TO BE REFUNDED</b>					<b>\$27,709.68</b>

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Princeton approve the tax refunds as presented.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a certified copy of this resolution be forwarded to the CFO, Tax Assessor and Tax Collector.

Councilman Martindell moved to approve Resolution 2011-R245 and Resolution 2011-R246, Councilwoman Trelstad seconded, and Borough Council approved unanimously.

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item I, Bill List for September 27, 2011 — Resolution 2011-R247** as follows:

**RESOLUTION 2011-R247  
OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON  
APPROVING THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2011 BILL LIST**

**WHEREAS**, Finance Officer Sandra L. Webb has forwarded the bills received for payment by the Borough of Princeton for review and approval by the Mayor and Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Clerk has certified that the vouchers listed on the attached register are as follows:

CURRENT ACCOUNT (11-01)	113,825.33
RESERVE ACCOUNT (10-01)	
PARKING UTILITY OPERATING FUND (11-05)	23,401.64
PARKING UTILITY OPERATING FUND (10-05)	
AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPERATING ACCT (11-24)	6,772.80
AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPERATING ACCT (10-24)	
IMPROVEMENT ASSESSMENT (11-11)	
ANIMAL CONTROL TRUST (A-14)	72.41
CAPITAL ACCOUNT (C-04)	19,784.19
PARKING UTILITY CAPITAL FUND (P-06)	5,280.00
ESCROW (E-30)	11,357.19
TRUST FUND (T-13)	630.00
GENERAL INSURANCE	
FLEXIBLE SPENDING FUND (11-22)	
MANUAL	3,562,624.54
ASSESSMENT TRUST FUND (11-11)	
GRANT (G-02)	2,029.14

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Princeton approve the bill list as presented.

Councilwoman Trelstad moved to approve Resolution 2011-R247, Councilman Martindell seconded, and Council approved unanimously.

Council identified a problem with the television feed and worked to resolve FiOS output for citizens at home.

Council President Wilkes convened the joint meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Council President Wilkes read **Agenda Item J, Joint Session Borough and Township of Princeton Discussion (1) — Joint Consolidation/ Shared Services (JCSS) Study Commission of Princeton Borough and Princeton Township** —*Anton Lahnston, Chair; and members Mayor Chad Goerner, Mayor Mildred Trotman, Councilmember David Goldfarb, Valerie Haynes, Ryan Lilienthal, Eugene McCarthy, William Metro, Committeemember Bernie Miller, Patrick Simon, Alice Small.*

Council President Wilkes welcomed colleagues from Princeton Township and introduced Township Clerk Linda S. McDermott to call the roll:

Present: Mayor Chad Goerner, Committeewoman Liz Lempert, Committeeman Lance Liverman, Committeeman Bernard Miller, Committeewoman Sue Nemeth

Absent: None

Staff Present: Administrator James Pascale, Township Clerk Linda S. McDermott

Mr. Lahnston reported that, after months of analysis, Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission recommends consolidation for Princeton Borough and Township to be considered on the November 8, 2011 ballot. Mr. Lahnston was convinced that a joint Princeton will create a better future through unified resources.

Mr. Lahnston commended the independent thinking among the Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission members toward the “voter education phase.” He listed some ongoing questions:

1. Is there a potential loss of voter voice in the Borough?—Consolidation will create a strong, unified voice throughout.
2. Why are the savings limited?—There will be substantial savings.
3. How will this impact relationships with Princeton University?—Improved, with the community speaking with one voice.
4. Were the new ratables in the Borough and Township considered?—Considered but not included (Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission feared distortions from guessing future outcomes).
5. How will consolidation affect emergency management?—Create a clear line of authority, unify resources and responses.

Mr. Lahnston observed that some myths, misstatements, and misconceptions have emerged; such as:

- Cost of trash pickup not properly factored in
- Transition costs not fully accounted for
- \$3.2 million savings overestimated
- “Urge to merge” originated at Township Committee
- *Collusion* between governing bodies to make consolidated taxes appear more attractive
- There is no crisis yet
- Big savings were promised.

Mr. Lahnston said that myths such as these make voter education difficult.

Mr. Lahnston welcomed public comments and questions.

Council President Wilkes opened the public discussion and reminded the audience that each individual’s remarks must be limited to three minutes.

Henry Singer, 187 Laurel Circle in Township, offered a historical timeline of Princeton Borough / Township from 1696 to present. He favored preserving historic *Princeton*, not historic *Princeton Borough*.

Alexi Assmuss commented that calculations were based on uncertain assumptions, that estimates were based on educated guesses rather than research. She said some internal inconsistencies raise questions. She stated the “inexorable logic” of municipal consolidation is higher taxes or fewer services.

Patrick Simon pointed out that a municipality can more efficiently collect garbage than a community of individuals contracting such service. He said the net impact of adding the service versus the savings is zero.

Councilman Goldfarb noted there is no benefit to Borough residents for extending garbage collection to the Township; there is, in fact, a small cost due to extra distance between properties.

Mr. Simon stressed a *holistic* perspective (over and above trash collection), with each municipality ceding something and gaining elsewhere in return.

Dan Preston, Moore Street in Township, thought it was common sense that merging two police departments to one, two public works departments to one, and so forth **must** save money. He raised the matter of there being two Township voters for every one Borough voter; Township will outvote Borough every time. Mr. Preston argued that the two towns are indistinguishable in voting history for state and national offices.

Peter Marks, Moore Street in Borough, criticized Mr. Lahnston’s contempt for his opponents. He agreed with Mr. Preston that “we have always been one Princeton”—an important distinction is accessibility of downtown and the commensurate need of outliers for parking garages. Mr. Marks differentiated among density, land values, and property values. People adversely affected by consolidation live on Jefferson / Moore west to John / Witherspoon and the tree streets. Mr. Marks questioned positions on a Dinky move as voiced by Councilwoman Crumiller, Councilwoman Trelstad, Councilwoman Butler, and Mayor Trotman in the face of consolidation.

Anne Neumann, Borough, spoke against consolidation because of differences in voting practices between the two towns’ governments. She wondered if Princeton University is tacitly in favor of consolidation—a good reason for voters to oppose it.

Ken Fields, Linden Lane in Borough, pursued the cost of maintaining current levels of consolidated leaf and brush pickup. Councilman Goldfarb replied that Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission had assumed more frequent collection in downtown (probably not including Township’s portion of downtown streets) than the community as a whole.

Mr. Simon anticipated uniting—from a service perspective—arbitrarily defined *neighborhoods* into Advisory Planning Districts.

Kate Warren, Jefferson Road, stated offense at the term “myth.” She objected to Councilman Martindell’s idea that voters should blindly follow elected officials who *know what’s best for both towns*. Ms. Warren read a statement asserting that the Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission steered the study away from *status quo* by limiting the scope of investigation and eliminating objectivity. Ms. Warren found most of Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission’s underlying assumptions unbelievable.

Van Williams, Prospect Avenue at Broadmead in Borough, applauded Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission’s effort as thoughtful and thorough. He took responsibility as a voter for success or failure of consolidation. Mr. Williams contended that the basic rationale presented by Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission is fundamentally sound. He thought one unified community will be more effective negotiating with the State of New Jersey, with Princeton University, and within town borders.

Sandra Persichetti, current Township resident and former Borough resident, noted that only 25% of tax dollars fund municipal functions. She recommended putting aside money considerations and concentrating on efficiencies. Ms. Persichetti resented the “us or them” mentality created by consolidation talks. Ms. Persichetti urged consolidation.

Rob Dodge, Maple Street, spotted two omissions in consolidation calculations (based on his experience blending service organizations in the private sector)—namely, no discussion of the huge expenditures of labor to integrate procedures, rules, systems, and people; and lack of proof that a larger service group has lower overhead, less middle management, and is more responsive. Mr. Dodge fears that voters cannot fully understand the liabilities and realities of consolidation from the Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission report. “Surely all residents will be left with reduced services, less representation, and a higher tax burden,” Mr. Dodge asserted.

Mr. Lahnston referred to a document in the final report that includes information on transition costs (\$1.7 million). State support of the transition plan is unknown—early signals indicate some support.

Tina Clement, Vandeventer Avenue in Borough, emphasized checks and balance, a concept lost under consolidation. She feared loss of voices on planning, zoning, density, university initiatives (Merwick and Stanworth). Ms. Clement distinguished local issues from the larger political arenas.

Ronald Neilson, Humbert Street in Borough, noted that Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission was aware of the adverse nature from consolidation on Borough residents. The Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission naively maintains that inequalities will be negotiated after passage.

Dudley Sipprelle, Nassau Street, identified himself as Princeton’s Republican Committee chairman. Mr. Sipprelle insisted that local government and good governance are *not* partisan affairs. Mr. Sipprelle provided statistics on Princeton Borough’s partisan profile and voting



habits. Consolidation attempts must convince voters of all persuasions that their quality of life will improve and they will save money.

Ben Warren, Jefferson Road in Borough, wondered where some numbers in the Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission report originated; in particular, regarding reduction of police staff.

Bill Metro, chairman of the police subcommittee (police task force including representatives of Borough police and Township police), stated the subcommittee had drafted eight organization charts, understanding that a consolidated force would have one chief. From there, the subcommittee considered input from Borough, Township, and Mike Carpenter of CGR to structure various configurations that maximize effective patrol over four shifts. Further police services, some of which had been trimmed in the past, were then incorporated into the models. Finally the salary component was added.

Mr. Warren asked about comparisons with similar New Jersey municipal police forces (such as Mahwah rather than neighbors East Windsor or West Windsor).

Mr. Metro reported extensive round-table talks among the subcommittee members, looking at historical police needs in both the Borough and Township—in conjunction with national statistics. Mr. Metro summarized that savings were mostly found in management and administration, and with other optimizations.

Jim Firestone worried that the depth of complexities (especially inconsistencies) found in the revaluation process will be repeated in consolidation. Mr. Firestone stated that the Borough is “a different animal” from the Township—and Borough voices (Councilman Martindell, for example) may no longer be heard after consolidation. He expressed gratitude to Council for hoping to hold Princeton University accountable as a participant in Princeton life.

Rob Whiteside, Hawthorne Avenue, cited the municipalities’ approaches to the school budget as representative of a core difference, in which Township opinion “swamps” Borough.

Alan Hegedus, Armour Road in Borough, addressed the legitimate differences stated here today. Mr. Hegedus emphatically downplayed trash and leaf collection as elemental to consolidation. Mr. Hegedus asked “what’s broke that needs fixin’?” He stipulated that financial aspects will be irrelevant in less than two years. The most important fact is that consolidation is irreversible.

Seeing no one further from the audience, Council President Wilkes closed public comment and turned to Council and Committee.

Councilwoman Butler read a lengthy statement pointing out the complexity and far-reaching implications of consolidating municipalities. Addressing Borough voters opposed to consolidation and on the fence, Councilwoman Butler shared her thoughts on “Boroughness” and the race for ratables. Councilwoman Butler hoped that, in a combined community, like-minded residents will be heard on the negative ramifications of the proposed Alexander Street development. Councilwoman Butler mentioned the “dirty little secret” of two towns’ legal fees

spent opposing each other. Councilwoman Butler stressed that the allocation of taxes (50% for schools, 25% for County, 25% retained for local purposes) leaves little room to find significant tax relief through savings without consolidation. Councilwoman Butler announced her intention to vote **yes** for consolidation.

Committeewoman Nemeth was in favor of consolidation. She spoke of recent struggles resulting from cutbacks and layoffs; there is little left to do to hold the line on taxes. Committeewoman Nemeth thought a tremendous opportunity will be lost if consolidation fails. Committeewoman Nemeth thought consolidation was an important step toward the future well-being of both towns.

Councilwoman Crumiller concurred with all of Councilwoman Butler's remarks. In response to Mr. Marks, Councilwoman Crumiller stated she favors consolidation in spite of her known support of the Dinky. Councilwoman Crumiller pointed out that many members of "Save the Dinky" reside in the Township. Councilwoman Crumiller said everyone would be better off if everyone had responsibility for land-use decisions.

Committeeman Liverman agreed that trash collection cannot be the focus for a consolidation vote—rather, future tax rates must be the primary consideration. Committeeman Liverman was confident that present fears about loss of services will be alleviated over time.

Councilman Martindell answered remarks from the audience and those at the table:

- The quality of life is paramount and will improve with consolidation; money will be saved.
- Councilman Martindell denied asking voters to follow elected officials' judgment.
- Reduction of consolidated police force from 60 to 51 is too modest a goal ("heavily over-policed"), given that one-third of the population is protected by 60 Princeton University police officers.
- The best goal is a total restructuring of the delivery of services to both towns to realize real savings.
- Current check-and-balance practice ends in stalemates.
- Town *is* broke and *does* need fixing'. It is becoming no longer affordable (golden ghetto). Small tax base is shrinking due to increasing impact of Princeton University.

Committeewoman Lempert observed that all costs are increasing; only state aid is declining. Governments must find cuts that do not affect distribution of services. She described a road map the Township has followed to achieve reduced spending.

Councilwoman Trelstad stated she has not differentiated between Borough and Township during her early years as a resident. She emphasized the enormous traffic impact on all of Princeton development (largely Princeton University). Councilwoman Trelstad stressed the need to work together holistically to solve, say, leaf collection issues.

Council President Wilkes thought consolidation should be a step toward reaching out to neighboring towns to create larger cooperative efforts. In particular, he suggested a unified, highly professional construction department encompassing Princeton Borough, Princeton

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Township, Montgomery, Hopewell, and others. Council President Wilkes saw too many lost opportunities from separation of resources.

Mayor Trotman replied to Mr. Marks's query about the Dinky relocation. She had expressed concern about E5 zoning, and other Princeton University projects that will impact circulation and traffic throughout the area and especially Alexander Street. Mayor Trotman, first-time supporter of consolidation, said most of her fears from the past have been answered. Mayor Trotman was confident that Borough services will become more inexpensive, more effective, and more efficient.

Mayor Goerner said working with Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission members had proved to him that all had the same end goal: Preserving the character of the community while slowing tax increases. He advised a long-term view to potential gain. Mayor Goerner mentioned the advantage for local neighborhoods (for example, Moore Street spanning Borough and Township) to be able to appeal to Planning or Zoning with a unified front (called Advisory Planning Districts).

Committeeman Miller asked that everyone stop thinking about geographic boundaries set a century ago; neighborhoods cross those boundaries. He said consolidation will give such neighborhoods a voice that does not presently exist.

Council President Wilkes announced a follow-up joint meeting on Wednesday, October 26, 2011, to be held at Township Hall.

Councilwoman Trelstad moved to adjourn; Committeewoman Nemeth seconded. There being no further business, Council President Wilkes adjourned the open session meeting at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

**Delores A. Williams**  
**Deputy Borough Clerk**